



City of Cincinnati

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WIND FLYERS AT LUNKEN AIRPORT

Nationally recognized illustrator, Loren Long, author John Fleischman, and living heroes, John Leahr and Herb Heilbrun will be at the City of Cincinnati Municipal Lunken Airport to sign their books at Lunken's first family fun event designed to introduce young people to aviation through reading. The Blue Marble Book Store of Fort Thomas will bring a variety of aviation books at discounted prices to Lunken Airport's terminal building, 262 Wilmer Avenue. The event will celebrate the Tuskegee Airmen with two featured books:

- *Black and White Airman: Their True History* (Houghton Mifflin, \$19.99) by John Fleischman. Ages 10 and up. Mr. Fleischman and WWII veterans John Leahr and Herb Heilbrun will appear on Saturday October 20, 2007, 11 AM to 1 PM.
- *Wind Flyers* (Simon & Schuster, \$16.99) by Angela Johnson and illustrated by Loren Long. Ages 5-9. Loren will sign books on Saturday, October 20, 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM.

John Leahr and Herb Heilbrun became pilots during World War II, but they never met because the army was rigidly segregated--only in the air were black and white American fliers allowed to mix. Fifty years later, they met and discovered their lives had run almost parallel. John Fleischman narrates their story in *Black and White Airmen: Their True History*, and also provides a great deal of historical context.

In *Windflyers*, a young boy is inspired to take to the skies by his great-great uncle who recounts moments of jumping into hay stacks, flying with barnstormers, and soaring as a Tuskegee Airmen, into the wind, against the wind, and beyond the wind. The lyrical narration of three-time Coretta Scott King Award winner Angela Johnson and the heartfelt images of New York Times bestselling illustrator Loren Long transform this essential piece of American history into a beautiful moving book. Mr. Long's picture books include: *I Dream of Trains*, *When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer*, and *The Little Engine that Could*.

Vintage aircraft exhibited on the public terminal ramp, will give children of all ages the opportunity to meet real live heroes from the books and see planes like those they flew. More details about the event can be found at [the www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov).